



Module 5: National Guard/Reserve



Module Objectives

After this module, you should be able to:

- Explain Line of Duty Care for National Guard/Reserve members
- Explain who determines TRICARE eligibility for National Guard/Reserve members
- Explain how National Guard/Reserve members become eligible for TRICARE
- Describe when National Guard/Reserve members become eligible for the TRICARE Dental Program
- Describe when National Guard/Reserve retirees become eligible for TRICARE



Active Duty For Less Than 30 Days

- While on active duty orders for 30 days or less, National Guard/ Reserve members are covered by their Service component for any injury, illness, or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty
 - This includes when they are traveling directly to or from the place where they perform their military duty, including weekend drill or unit training assembly
- Their family members are not eligible for TRICARE benefits



Line of Duty Determinations

- Line of duty (LOD) determinations are used to document, establish, manage, and authorize civilian health care for eligible National Guard/Reserve members who are injured or become ill while on active duty
- The Military Medical Support Office (MMSO) is responsible for managing civilian health care for National Guard/Reserve members who are **NOT** in a Military Treatment Facility (MTF) Prime Service Area in the U.S.
- Documentation for LOD-related conditions must be provided to either the MTF or MMSO, as appropriate to establish eligibility for care
- Medical care may be rendered at a local MTF or a civilian medical facility if required
 - To receive care at the MTF, the National Guard/Reserve member's Command or medical unit should contact the MTF's patient administration office for assistance
 - If local MTF care is not available, the National Guard/Reserve member's Command or medical unit may request civilian medical care authorization through their individual Service processes



TRICARE Eligibility

When on Federal orders to serve as active duty for more than 30 consecutive days, National Guard/Reserve members and their eligible family members have access to the same health care benefits as active duty service members and their family members.

The U.S. Uniformed Services National Guard/Reserve Components are:

- Army National Guard
- Army Reserve
- Navy Reserve
- Marine Corps Reserve
- Air National Guard
- Air Force Reserve
- Coast Guard Reserve



Beneficiaries must be registered in Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) in order to access TRICARE coverage. TRICARE eligibility questions can be addressed at the nearest Uniformed Services ID card issuing facility or by contacting the DEERS Support Office.



Delayed-Effective-Date Active Duty Orders

- When National Guard/Reserve members receive federal delayed-effective-date active duty orders to serve for **more than 30 consecutive days in support of a contingency**, they and their family members are eligible for TRICARE on the date the order was issued or 90 days prior to being called to active duty, whichever is later.

The following scenario demonstrates how delay-effective-date active duty orders affect TRICARE coverage:

Scenario 1: On January 1, the National Guard/Reserve member receives delayed-effective-date active duty orders for 60 consecutive days in support of a contingency operation, with a reporting date of April 2.

On January 1, TRICARE coverage begins for the National Guard/Reserve member and their eligible family members.



Mobilization and TRICARE Coverage

Eligibility

- When activated under federal orders for more than 30 consecutive days, National Guard and Reserve members become eligible for TRICARE health coverage.

Enrollment

- National Guard/Reserve members on duty (in combatant theaters of operation) with existing or imbedded organic medical treatment and support capabilities for healthcare are not required to enroll in Prime or Prime Remote.
- All other activated Guard/Reserve members must enroll in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote, just like other active duty service members.
- If mobilized to an overseas location, National Guard/Reserve members should follow directions given by their command as to whether to enroll in an overseas plan.



Additional Options Available to National Guard/Reserve Members

TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS)

- Premium-based health plan available for purchase by qualified members of the National Guard and Reserve who are members of the Selected Reserve
- See the TRS module for additional information

Transitional Assistance Management Program

- Provides 180 days of transitional health care coverage for certain members of the Uniformed Services that separated from active duty, and their eligible family members
- See the Transitional Benefits module for additional information

Continued Health Care Benefits Program

- Premium-based health care program that offers temporary transitional health coverage (up to 18 or 36 months) after military health care benefits end (including TAMP eligibility)
- See the Transitional Benefits module for additional information



TRICARE Dental Program for Guard/Reserve Members

- Guard/Reserve members (both IRR and SELRES) who are **NOT** on active duty for more than 30 consecutive days and their eligibility family members can participate in the voluntary, premium-based TRICARE Dental Program (TDP)
- Eligibility is determined by the uniformed services and recorded in Defense Eligibility Enrollment System
- Sponsors and their eligible family members can enroll independently of each other
- When the Guard/Reserve member is called to active duty, they will get their dental care at the military dental facility
 - The TDP family premium will fall to the active duty family member rate



National Guard/Reserve Retirees and TRICARE Prime

- National Guard/Reserve retirees and their families are not eligible for TRICARE coverage until the sponsor begins collecting retirement pay, typically at age 60.
- Guard/Reserve retirees and their eligible family members can participate in TRICARE Standard, TRICARE Extra, or enroll in TRICARE Prime.
- Guard/Reserve retirees and their family members are not eligible for TRICARE Prime Remote or TRICARE Prime for Active Duty Family Members.
- Retirees and their families have an annual TRICARE Prime enrollment fee of \$230 for an individual or \$460 for a family of two or more.



Congratulations!

You've Completed Module 5: National Guard/Reserve!

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